

Nottingham Budget Committee Meeting
12-14-21
Official Minutes as of 12-16-21

1 **Call to Order**

2 Members Present: Michelle King (Chair), John Decker (Vice Chair), Tom Leveille, Michael
3 Koester, Sandra Jones, Bob Kelly, Michael Kelly, Tiler Eaton (Select Board rep), Karyl Martin
4 (School Board rep)

5 Absent: Tom Butkiewicz, Jeffrey Morrison

6 Others: Lorraine Petrini

7 The Chair opened the meeting at 7pm.

8 **Approve Minutes**

9 **Mr. Decker made a motion to approve the public minutes from 12-2-21 as written. Ms.**
10 **Jones seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 6-3- with Mr. Koester, Mr. R. Kelly,**
11 **and Mr. Leveille abstaining.**

12 **Mr. Decker made a motion to approve the public minutes from 12-7-21 as amended. Mr.**
13 **Leveille seconded. Unanimously approved by a vote of 8-1 with Mr. Koester abstaining.**

14 **Business**

15 *School Update*

16 Ms. Martin has no updates as the SB has not met. They will review the draft of the default
17 budget tomorrow.

18 Transportation Committee met last week. Dail Transportation was asked to do a longer contract:
19 a 3-year vs. 5-year contract.

20 Ms. King asked about the state building aid. Ms. Martin said the application they put in last year
21 would still be in the running for state aid but Nottingham ranked 7th on the list. They could
22 resubmit the information they have for the addition. Ms. Martin said they are not counting on
23 state money and planned to use impact fees for the first year of interest on the bond.

24 Mr. Leveille asked for track movement costs vs. step changes; he asked what makes up the 7.7%.

25 Mr. R. Kelly asked who negotiates the teacher contract. Ms. Martin said the union and the
26 School Board; the School Board sometimes uses a lawyer. Ms. King said it's not BC. Mr. Decker
27 said BC asked to be part of the audience. Ms. Martin said union negotiations are confidential and
28 if there are other people, then other groups can find out what was said and offered. Mr. Koester
29 said the SB is the public group that negotiates with the teachers and union. Mr. Leveille said he
30 has never seen public in the negotiations for teachers.

31 Mr. R. Kelly asked how many hours paraprofessionals work. Ms. Martin said they work under
32 35 hours a week. They work the school day. They are eligible for healthcare but not state
33 retirement.

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34 Mr. R. Kelly asked how many teachers and paras. Ms. Martin said roughly 40 teachers.

35 Mr. M. Kelly said a person would save for 5-10 years if they wanted to put an addition on a
36 house. He said the school has been looking for an addition for a few years. Would it be wiser to
37 set aside money for 10 years? Ms. Martin said they have reserve funds. Ms. Martin said they
38 would typically bond the school addition and there is a lower interest rate rather than saving the
39 money for several years ahead of time. Ms. Martin said they will need to repair or replace the
40 roofs on the school in the next few years and this is on the CIP. Ms. Jones asked when they will
41 have a plan for addition. Ms. Martin said the RFP deadline for the modulars is Dec. 20 and the
42 SB will discuss after that.

43 Ms. King asked what if they propose two warrant articles and give the town 2 options. Ms.
44 Martin said they would have look into that to see if they can do that. They would have to see if
45 they can put 2 alternative bonds on the ballot.

46 *Town Update*

47 Mr. Eaton said the BOS met last night. Mr. Eaton said they had an issue with a COVID-19
48 positive employee in the building. The BOS created a policy for the COVID-19. The BOS spoke
49 about paying off debt for Mulligan Forest and fire station with year-end funds. The BOS will
50 meet with the Conservation Commission to discuss if the Commission would pay off the
51 Mulligan Forest. Mr. Koester asked about the interest costs. Mr. Eaton said it will save the town
52 \$28k for fire department and \$48k for Mulligan Forest. Mr. Eaton said they eliminated the
53 highway/recycling/rec. dept position. The BOS eliminated one vehicle from highway
54 department. Mr. Decker asked why they would put money in that reserve fund if they are taking
55 money out of the account to buy something that year. Mr. Eaton said the highway dept. has
56 more employees than vehicles. Mr. Eaton said the rec. dept. removed the \$7k beach gate. The
57 BOS will have a meeting on Saturday to go over budget further. Mr. Decker said it's a big jump
58 for 24-hour service for the fire department. Mr. Eaton said that some police and fire get trained
59 and then leave for another city. Mr. R. Kelly asked if they are locked in to work for a number of
60 years. Mr. Eaton said the fire chief believes if he can offer more hours, people will stay longer.
61 The fire dept. is asking for an ambulance which will come out of the reserve fund. Mr. Eaton
62 asked for input from BC. Mr. Decker said they could do a warrant article for the fire dept 24-
63 hour service. Mr. Eaton said they haven't discussed the old town hall renovations yet.

64 **Committee Reports**

65 *School Facilities*

66 Mr. Koester does not have an update.

67 *SAU Transition*

68 Mr. Decker said there is no update.

69 *Capital Improvement Plan*

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70 Ms. King said they met last Thursday.

71 *Transportation Committee*

72 Ms. Martin said there are contracts coming in. There was discussion about fuel costs.

73 **Other**

74 *Parting Thoughts*

75 *Next Meeting: 12-16-21*

76 **Adjourn**

77 **Mr. Decker made a motion to adjourn at 8:15pm. Mr. Leveille seconded. Unanimously**
78 **approved by a vote of 9-0.**

79